

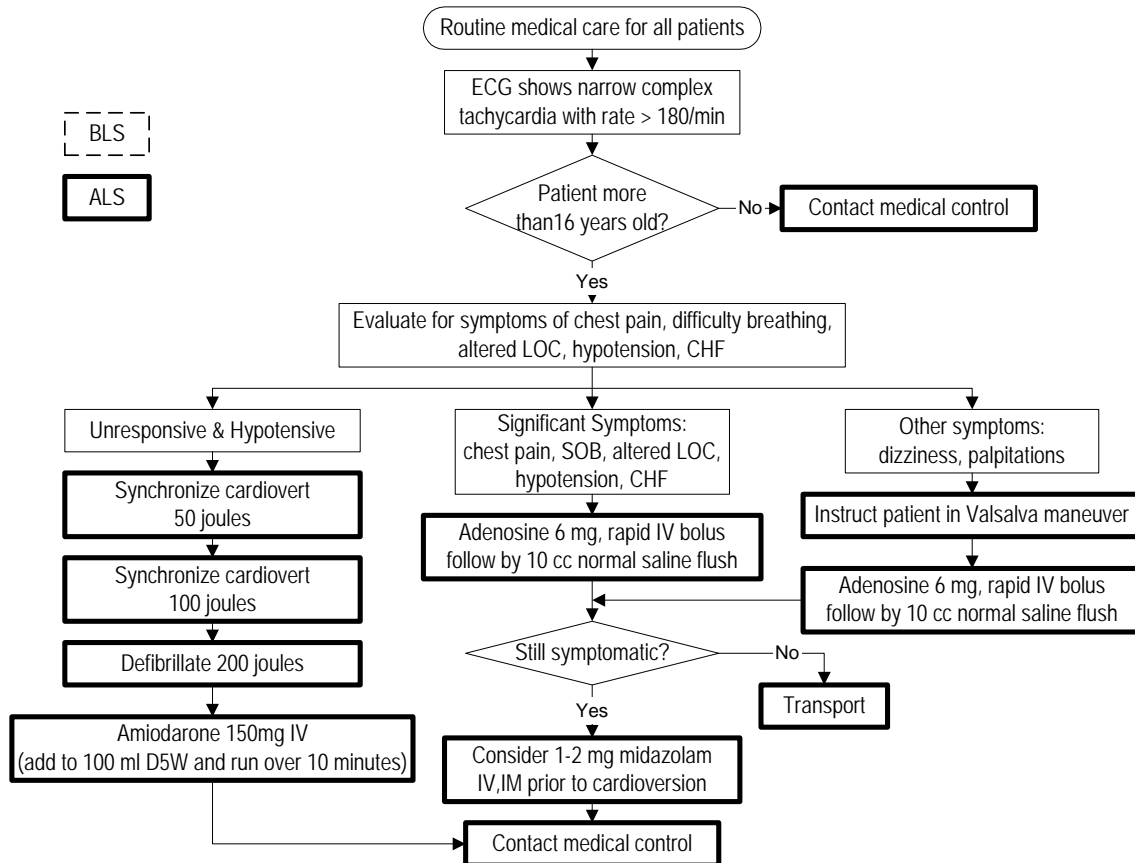
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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
MEDICAL PROTOCOL  
NARROW COMPLEX**

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Page 1 of 1

**TACHYCARDIA WITH PULSES**

History	Signs/Symptoms	Working Assessment
History of arrhythmia History of palpitations or "racing heart" AICD History of stimulant ingestion	Systolic blood pressure <90 Altered LOC, dizziness Chest pain Shortness of breath Diaphoresis Palpitations ECG shows narrow complex > 180/min	Narrow complex tachycardia



**NOTES:**

- Contraindications to adenosine are: heart block, heart transplant, resuscitated cardiac arrest; patients taking theophylline products, Tegretol (carbamazepine, which increases the degree of heart blocks caused by adenosine) or Persantine (dipyridamole, which potentiates the affects of adenosine).
- Because of its short half-life, adenosine must be administered rapid IV bolus followed by a 10 cc normal saline flush
- After administration of adenosine, patient may have a disorganized ECG or brief period of asystole prior to conversion to sinus rhythm. Patients have reported feelings of "impending doom" during this period.
- Adenosine is not effective on atrial fibrillation.
- Carotid massage is not to be performed in the Milwaukee County EMS System.